

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Application

- Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,275,937 to Hailpern et al. ("*Hailpern*"), in view of the web pages located at www.trendmicro.com ("*Trend*").

The Specification

The title has been amended to more accurately reflect the invention.

The claims have been amended for grammar and syntax.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, noting that the cited art does not render the claims obvious as of the time the invention was made.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) requires the cited art to render each limitation of the claims obvious "at the time the invention was made." Applicant respectfully notes that the cited art fails to do so. *Trend* was downloaded on January 8, 2004 (*See, e.g.*, date stamp at bottom of each page of *Trend*). Thus, while *Trend* may indicate aspects of virus tracking as of January 8, 2004, it cannot speak to virus tracking *at the time Applicant's invention was made*. In other words, *Trend* is not prior art because its publication date is not prior to the date of Applicant's invention, nor was it prior to the filing date of the present invention. Additionally, *Trend* contains no indications of the capabilities of virus tracking prior to the date it was downloaded. For these reasons, *Trend* is not available as a prior art reference.

Claim 1

Hailpern does not disclose various limitations of claim 1. For example, claim 1 specifically requires a "display mode providing real-time updates of said virus tracking information." The Action indicates that *Hailpern* does not disclose this feature, as stated in the last sentence of page 2 of the Action, continuing onto page 3. Such a display mode is advantageous in that it aids in "understanding, and proactively preventing the spread of such viruses." (Specification, page 4, line 7). For example, such a display allows one to more easily visualize global patterns in the spread of a virus, and act accordingly. The Action has thus not stated a prima facie case of obviousness and it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 12

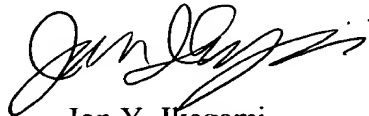
Hailpern does not disclose various limitations of claim 12. Similar to claim 1, claim 12 requires “displaying a real-time trace on a tracking user device.” The Action indicates that *Hailpern* does not disclose this feature, as stated in the first full paragraph of page 7 of the Action.

It is noted that *Hailpern* also fails to disclose other limitations of claim 12. For instance, page 7 of the Action indicates that *Hailpern* also does not disclose “providing an anti-virus scanning program on at least one anti-virus scanning server accessible via the distributed computer network,” “processing the scan log information into virus tracking information and storing it on a database server associated with the virus-tracking server,” and “retrieving the virus tracking information.” Accordingly, the Action has thus not stated a prima facie case of obviousness as to claim 12, and it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at (650) 314-5322.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



Jon Y. Ikegami
Reg. No. 51,115

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778
(650) 961-8300